

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:RONEILL:RGH

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S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH (INFO)

NEA/EGY - MR. MATTHEWS (INFO)

NEA/ARN - MR. DAY (INFO)

NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN (INFO)

----- 126450

R 192323Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANA

USINT BAGHDAD

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AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

UNCLAS STATE 197287

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 19,
1975:

Q. WHAT WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH
AMBASSADOR DINITZ (THIS MORNING)?

A. THE SUBJECT OF HIS MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ WAS
THE INTERIM AGREEMENT AND THE STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS,
AND HIS TRIP ON WHICH HE LEAVES TOMORROW FOR THE MIDDLE
EAST.

Q. WHY WAS IT NECESSARY?

A. WELL, WHEN YOU HAVE THESE KIND OF NEGOTIATIONS, IT IS
NECESSARY FOR THE SECRETARY TO GET INVOLVED AT VARIOUS
STAGES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

Q. BUT I MEAN, THE IMPRESSION WE GOT LAST WEEK WAS THAT A
NUMBER OF MEETINGS WERE REQUIRED TO SET UP THE SHUTTLE AND

THEN DURING THE SHUTTLE ANY FURTHER MATTERS WOULD BE
RESOLVED. WHY WAS THIS PARTICULAR MEETING NECESSARY
BETWEEN THOSE OF LAST WEEK AND THE UPCOMING SHUTTLE?

A. I DO NOT THINK WE RULED OUT LAST WEEK THAT THE
SECRETARY MIGHT NOT BE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ
AND PARTICIPATING IN THE TALKS THAT WERE GOING TO TAKE
PLACE. I DO NOT FIND THAT VERY UNUSUAL. I THINK THAT
THIS HAPPENS USUALLY ON THE EVE OF ANY TRIP.
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Q. IS HE GOING TO SEE HIM THIS AFTERNOON?

A. HE MAY SEE AMBASSADOR DINITZ AGAIN BEFORE HE
LEAVES, EITHER THIS AFTERNOON OR POSSIBLY TOMORROW
MORNING. THAT HAS NOT BEEN SET UP YET.

Q. WAS ANYTHING SAID AT THE MEETING WITH DINITZ THIS
MORNING THAT WOULD LEAD THE SECRETARY TO CHANGE HIS
ASSESSMENT ABOUT 80 TO 90 PERCENT SUCCESS ALREADY
ACHIEVED OR CHANCES OF SUCCESS, OR ANYTHING TO CHANGE HIS
SCHEDULE?

A. THERE WAS NOT ANYTHING SAID AT THE MEETING THAT IS

GOING TO CHANGE HIS PLANNED DEPARTURE TOMORROW EVENING FOR THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q. BOB, THERE IS A STORY IN THE ISRAELI PRESS THIS MORNING THAT SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL WOULD SIGN A MEMORANDUM OR AN UNDERSTANDING THAT INCLUDED FORTY SPECIFIC CLAUSES IN IT. AND THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO LIST SOME OF THEM. CAN YOU COMMENT ON THAT? IS THAT AN ACCURATE REPORT?

A. ON THIS KIND OF QUESTION, MY RESPONSE IS GOING TO BE IN ESSENCE WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND OUR PROBLEM. WE ARE THE COUNTRY THROUGH WHICH THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING CONDUCTED BY THE TWO PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED. THEREFORE, WE ARE JUST NOT ABLE TO DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT PRESENTLY BEING NEGOTIATED, OR TO COMMENT ON PRESS REPORTS SPECULATING ON THE DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. IT IS JUST NOT POSSIBLE.

Q. THIS IS AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL. CAN YOU GIVE US SOME IDEA OF THE EXTENT OF AMERICAN HELP OR ASSISTANCE OR UNDERSTANDINGS TO ISRAEL IN RETURN FOR ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT?

A. I AM JUST NOT ABLE TO COMMENT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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THE SECRETARY SAID IN VAIL ON SUNDAY THAT IF AND WHEN AN AGREEMENT IS CONCLUDED THAT EVERYTHING IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS INVOLVED WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES IN THE CONGRESS.

Q. DOES THAT MEAN THAT WHATEVER AGREEMENTS THE SECRETARY WORKS OUT WITH ISRAEL AND SEPARATELY WITH EGYPT WILL NOT BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL THEY ARE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS AFTER CONGRESS RETURNS?

A. I THINK THAT PROBABLY IS A FAIR ASSUMPTION, YES.

Q. DO YOU HAVE THE ITINERARY, BOB, OF THE TRIP YET?

A. HE IS GOING TO ISRAEL FIRST AND THEN EGYPT. AFTER THAT HE IS PLANNING TO VISIT SYRIA, JORDAN, AND SAUDI ARABIA. BUT THE ITINERARY OF THE LAST THREE COUNTRIES HAS NOT AS YET BEEN FIXED.

Q. WHEN YOU SAY "AFTER THAT", THERE MAY BE SEVERAL SHUTTLES BACK AND FORTH BEFORE THAT HAPPENS?

A. I DON'T THINK HE KNOWS THAT YET.

Q. BOB, IS IT YOUR UNDERSTANDING THAT FINAL TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT WILL BE ARRANGED BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL DIRECTLY, AS PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAS SAID THEY SHOULD BE?

A. HE ANTICIPATES THE SAME SORT OF DIRECT CONTACT AS TOOK PLACE IN THE LAST INTERIM SETTLEMENT.

Q. YOUR UNDERSTANDING IS THERE WILL BE SOMETHING SIMILAR TO THE 101 TALKS? IS THAT IT?

A. THAT IS MY UNDERSTANDING, YES.

Q. A COMMANDERS' MEETING IN THE SINAI, PERHAPS?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHO, BUT PERHAPS.

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Q. DO YOU HAVE A COMMENT ON JOSEPH KRAFT'S COLUMN ABOUT SEVERAL AMBASSADORIAL CHANGES AND THE ASSIGNMENT OF MR. ENDERS TO CANADA?

A. I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE KRAFT COLUMN.

Q. WHERE IS MR. ENDERS? IS HE IN WASHINGTON?

A. HE IS IN WASHINGTON, YES.

Q. THANK YOU. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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